



St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

Committed to 'Churches Together in England'

www.stmargaretearshaltonb.co.uk

Fir Tree Grove, Carshalton, SM5 4NG

Parochial Administrator: Fr Anthony Uche, JCD

Sunday Masses: 6.00pm (Sat), 9am & 11am

Tel: 0208 669 6483

Weekday Masses: 9.30am (& 9.30am Sat)

Mobile: 0737 635 0370

Holy Days of Obligation: 9.30am & 7.30pm

Email: carshaltonbeeches@rcaos.org.uk

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays 10.30-11.00am & 5.15 - 5.45pm & at call

A warm welcome to all parishioners and visitors



7th May 2023 [Cycle A Year 1]

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 6:1-7, | Psalm 33

1 Peter 2:4-9 | John 14:1-12

By His death, Resurrection, and Ascension, Jesus has gone ahead to prepare a place for us in His Father's house.

His Father's house is no longer a temple made by human hands. It is the spiritual house of the Church, built on the living stone of Christ's body. As Peter interprets the Scriptures in today's Epistle, Jesus is the "stone" destined to be rejected by men but made the precious cornerstone of God's dwelling on earth (see Psalm 118:22; Isaiah 8:14; 28:16). Each of us is called to be a living stone in God's building (see 1 Corinthians 3:9, 16). In this edifice of the Spirit, we are to be "holy priests" offering up "spiritual sacrifices"—all our prayer, work and intentions—to God. This is our lofty calling as Christians. This is why Christ led us out of the darkness of sin and death as Moses led the Israelites from bondage in Egypt.

God's covenant with Israel made them a royal and priestly people who were to announce His praises (see Exodus 19:6). By our faith in Christ's new covenant, we have been made heirs of this chosen race, called to glorify the Father in the temple of our bodies (see 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Romans 12:1). In today's First Reading, we see the spiritual house of the Church being built up as the Apostles consecrate seven deacons so they can devote themselves more fully to the "ministry of the Word." The Lord's Word is upright and all His works trustworthy, we sing in today's Psalm. So we can trust Jesus when He tells us never to be troubled but to believe that His Word and works come from the Father.

His Word continues its work in the world through the Church. We see its beginnings today in Jerusalem. It is destined to spread with influence and power (see Acts 19:20) and to become the imperishable seed by which every heart is born anew (see 1 Peter 1:23).

Reflection from St Paul Centre for Biblical Theology, Steubenville, Ohio

Strength to Strength

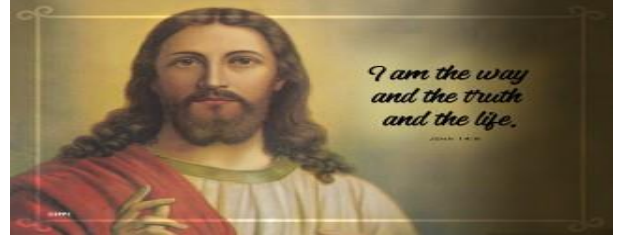
Strength to Strength is a six session DVD series designed to give practical help to those wishing to pray more in their daily lives. The course has begun here at St Margaret's Church. It is being held on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm. All are welcome. For further information, please ring Mary on 07710 240 169.

Community Outreach

As part of our ongoing plan, St Margaret's will be praying for the residents on South Rise during the month of May. Cards will be put through residents' letter boxes informing them of this.

First Holy Communion

Congratulations to all those who received their First Holy Communion today. Fr Anthony expresses his gratitude to all the Catechists who prepared the Children for this special occasion



Mass Intentions and Diary for the week

Friday 5	9.30am	King Charles III
	12.30pm	Mass for the Sick
	7pm	Wholehearted Choral Adoration
Saturday 6	9.30am	King Charles III
	5.15pm	Devotion to Our Lady
	6pm	Johnchristopher & Bridget Maughan TG
Sunday 7 5th Sunday of Easter [Psalm Wk1]	9am	David Anthony Siddon Lloyd RIP (YC)
	11am	First Holy Communion Children (CC)
Monday 8	9.30am	Raymond Addison WB
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart		
Tuesday 9	9.30am	People of the Parish
	7.30pm	Strength to Strength Session
Wednesday 10 St John de Avila	9.30am	The Flood Family Rip
	6pm	Youth Choir Practice
	7pm	Central Choir Practice
	8pm	Bible Study
Thursday 11	9.30am	Charlie & Tina Mc'Donagh TG
	7.30pm	Folk Choir Practice
Friday 12	9.30am	Tom & Angel Reilly TG
Saturday 13 Our Lady of Fatima	9.30am	Martha & Thomas Senghore RIP
	5.15pm	Devotion to Our Lady
	6pm	Johnchristopher & Bridget Maughan TG
Sunday 14 6th Sunday of Easter	9am	Tommy & Theresa Gavin TG (FC)
	11am	Peter & Margaret Maughan TG (CC)

FC= Folk Choir, YC= Youth Choir, CC= Central Choir,

TG= Thanksgiving, WB= Wellbeing, BT= Birthday Thanksgiving, SI= Special Intention, RIP= Rest in Peace, GP= God's Protection and PI= Private Intention

NOTE: Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration follows every weekday Mass, until 11am on Tuesday through Thursday, and until 8pm on Friday.

Prayer requests: Paul Ford, Michael Colairo, Richard Neal, Catherine Roberts, Paula Seradi, Maria Luisa Mapple, Sheila Sharp, Michal Pacala, Hilda Gill, Michael Rowback, Max & Isabelle Mifsud, Kristine Harvey, and Margaret Fox.

Laymen and laywomen to vote at Synod General Assembly



For the first time, 70 'non-bishop members' will be able to vote at the Synod General Assembly in October. Half of these will be women. These individuals will include lay people appointed directly by the Pope. All 70 will enjoy voting rights at the Assembly, which will consist of around 370 voting members.

Vocation to Priesthood & Religious Life

Have you ever considered you may be called to the priesthood or the religious life? Southwark Vocations will be hosting a 60-minute webinar on Tuesday 9th May at 7pm entitled *The Good Shepherd Calls*, where different presenters will share their experiences about discovering God's plan for each one of us. Please join us by registering for this event in advance by using following link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUpdOuprDMtH9wKUQ77ddSSjLBucMtsONT>

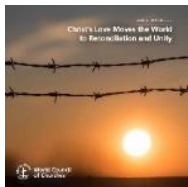
National Shrine of St Oscar Romero

The Archdiocese of Southwark has announced that the Diocesan Shrine of St Oscar Romero at St George's Cathedral, Southwark, has been elevated to the status of a National Shrine for England and Wales. St Oscar Romero (b 1917) was Archbishop of San Salvador in El Salvador from February 1977 until his assassination and martyrdom on 24 March 1980.

He was an outspoken advocate of the Gospel and the teaching of the Catholic Church in defence of justice and peace, human rights and the protection of the poor.

He was canonised by Pope Francis on 14 October 2018. For more information about the National Shrine see:

www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/diocese/southwark-shrines/the-oscar-romero-shrine/



WCC Annual Review

The World Council of Churches (WCC) Annual Review 2022 is now available for download online at:

www.oikoumene.org/resources/documents/wcc-annual-review-2022

Laudato Si' Week 2023 May 21-28

The Laudato Si' Movement marks the eighth anniversary of Pope Francis' landmark encyclical on care for creation. This global celebration aims to unite Catholics and rejoice in the progress made in bringing Laudato Si' to life. There is a moving film called 'The Letter' that can be viewed on YouTube at: <http://www.theletterfilm.org/watch/>

Pope Francis in Hungary

The Pope urged Hungary to look beyond national boundaries and pursue peace. He stressed "how much better it would be to build a Europe centred on the human person and on its peoples, with effective policies that are pursued attentively in this country, a Europe whose different nations would form a single family that protects the growth and uniqueness of each of its members" rather than focusing ideological colonisation and supranationalism." Also speaking of Budapest as a city of Saints, Pope Francis turned to the figure of St Stephen: the first King of Hungary, "who lived at a time when Europe's Christians were in full communion." The Holy Father noted that "St Stephen displays an authentically Christian spirit when he declares that 'the practice of love leads to supreme happiness'." You can watch Pope Francis' full address on the Vatican YouTube channel:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=nuDJR9CApP8

World Communications Day Sunday 21st May

The theme for the 2023 World Day of Social Communications, chosen by Pope Francis is 'Speaking with the Heart'. "It is the heart that spurred us to go, to see and to listen, and it is the heart that moves us towards an open and welcoming way of communicating." The call to speak with the heart, radically challenges the times in which we are living, which are so inclined towards indifference and indignation, at times even on the basis of disinformation which falsifies and exploits the truth. You can read the full text of the Pope's Communications Message at:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wcd23-papal-message/>

CAFOD accuses World Bank of harming poor farmers

The World Bank is failing in its duty to tackle poverty by pushing an agricultural model that benefits big agribusiness at the expense of the world's poorest, according to a shocking new report by CAFOD. The study finds that poor countries are being forced to subsidise patented seeds and fertilisers at great expense, often provided by agribusiness giants. Not only has this approach done little to tackle poverty, it effectively transfers public funds from poorer nations into the pockets of big business, draining resources while locking smallholder farmers into a package of unaffordable and environmentally destructive seeds and chemical fertilisers. You can read 'Sowing the seeds of poverty: how the World Bank harms poor farmers' at: <https://tinyurl.com/vc5rd564>

A prayer for the King

Almighty God, we pray, that your servant Charles, our King, who, by your providence has received the governance of this realm, may continue to grow in every virtue, that, imbued with your heavenly grace, he may be preserved from all that is harmful and evil and, being blessed with your favour may, with his consort and the royal family, come at last into your presence, through Christ who is the way, the truth and the life and who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen

A prayer from the Jesuit Refugee Service

God of all people, we pray that we may accompany those on the road, walking in solidarity with those forced from their homes. May we serve them humbly, recognizing not the cost, but freely giving from what we have.

Remove all fear and allow us to become a voice crying out in the desert, proclaiming the good news and advocating on behalf of all those forcibly displaced.

May we follow your example in being a friend to the excluded and a ready defender in their time of need. Please keep us united as a family, brought together by faith, hope, and love. Amen.

Wanted: School Business Manager

A School Business Manager is required at Laleham Lea School in Purley, from July 2023 (or earlier). Salary (starting at £40-£50k) commensurate with experience and qualifications Hours: F/T 8.30-5pm (with statutory holiday entitlement). Please contact our Head teacher via email on secretary@lalehamlea.co.uk for an application pack. Tel: 0208 660 3351. Closing date: May 15th 2023.

Wanted: Parliamentary and Public Affairs Officer

Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) seeks a Parliamentary and Public Affairs Officer. Location: Head Office in Sutton. Salary Range £33,000 - £36,000 1 FTE. ACN is a Catholic charity, supporting persecuted and suffering Christians around the world. For further details please visit: <https://acnuk.org/about/jobs-and-volunteering/parliamentary-public-affairs-officer/>